IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 12, 13, 21, 24 and 25 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein.

Please amend claims 1-11, 14-20, 22, 23, 26-28, 30, 32-38, as follows, with a marked-up copy of the amended claims being included in an Appendix attached to this reply.

1. (Amended) A drug delivery system compound which comprises a carboxy(C_{1-4})alkyl-dextran polyalcohol modified with galactose or galactosamine and a residue of drug compound bound to the carboxy(C_{1-4})alkyldextran polyalcohol.

D31

2. (Amended) The drug delivery system compound according to claim 1, wherein the carboxy(C_{1-4})alkyldextran polyalcohol modified with galactose or galactosamine and the residue of drug compound are bound to each other by a spacer.

3. (Amended) The drug delivery system compound according to claim 2, wherein the spacer comprises one amino acid or 2 to 8 amino acids linked by peptide bond(s).

4. (Twice Amended) The drug delivery system compound according to claim 1, wherein the carboxy(C_{1-4}) alkyldextran polyalcohol modified with galactose or galactosamine is formed by binding the galactose or galactosamine and a carboxy(C_{1-4})alkyldextran polyalcohol by a linker.

D32

5. (Amended) The drug delivery system compound according to claim 4, wherein the carboxy(C_{1-4})alkyldextran polyalcohol modified with galactose or galactosamine has a cluster modification by galactose or galactosamine bound by a linker.

D33

6. (Amended) A drug delivery system compound which is obtainable by binding a residue of a drug compound to a carboxy(C_{1-4})alkyldextran polyalcohol in which a part of carboxyl groups of the carboxy(C_{1-4})alkyl moiety are modified with galactose or galactosamine.

D33

7. (Amended) The drug delivery system compound according to claim 6, which is obtainable by binding the carboxy(C_{1-4})alkyldextran polyalcohol and the residue of drug compound by a spacer.

8. (Twice Amended) The drug delivery system compound according to claim 6, which is obtainable by binding the residue of drug compound to the carboxy(C_{1-4})alkyldextran polyalcohol which is produced by binding the galactose or galactosamine or a linker bound with the galactose or galactosamine to a part of carboxyl groups of the carboxy(C_{1-4})alkyl moiety of the carboxy(C_{1-4})alkyldextran polyalcohol.

D34

9. (Amended) A drug delivery system compound which is obtainable by modifying with a galactose or galactosamine a carboxy(C_{1-4})alkyldextran polyalcohol in which a residue of a drug compound is bound to a part of carboxyl groups of the carboxy(C_{1-4})alkyl moiety by a spacer.

D35

10. (Amended) The drug delivery system compound according to claim 9, which is obtainable by binding the carboxy(C_{1-4})alkyldextran polyalcohol and the saccharide compound by means of a linker.

11. (Twice Amended) The drug delivery system compound according to claim 9, which is obtainable by modifying with a saccharide compound a carboxy(C_{1-4})alkyldextran polyalcohol produced by binding a residue of drug compound to a part of carboxyl groups of the carboxy (C_{1-4})alkyl moiety of the carboxy(C_{1-4})alkyldextran polyalcohol by means of a spacer comprising one amino acid or a spacer comprising 2 to 8 amino acids linked by peptide bond(s).

D36

D37

14. (Amended) The drug delivery system compound according to claim 1, wherein substitution degree of galactose or galactosamine, or clustered galactose or galactosamine is 0.01-1.0 per saccharide residue of the carboxy(C_{1-4})alkyldextran polyalcohol.

15. (Twice Amended) The drug delivery system compound according to claim 1, wherein the dextran polyalcohol that constitutes the carboxy(C_{1-4})alkyldextran polyalcohol is a dextran polyalcohol which is obtained by treating dextran under conditions that enable substantially complete polyalcoholization.

D38

16. (Twice Amended) The drug delivery system compound according to claim 1, wherein the carboxy(C_{1-4})alkyldextran polyalcohol is carboxymethyldextran polyalcohol.

17. (Twice Amended) The drug delivery system compound according to claim 1, wherein the drug compound is an antineoplastic agent or an anti-inflammatory agent.

D39

18. (Amended) The drug delivery system compound according to claim 17, wherein the drug compound is an antineoplastic agent.

D40

19. (Twice Amended) The drug delivery system compound according to claim 1, wherein the drug compound is (1S,9S)-1-amino-9-ethyl-5-fluoro-2,3-dihydro-9-hydroxy-4-methyl-1H,12H-benzo[de]pyrano[3',4':6,7]indolizino[1,2-b]quinoline-10,13(9H,15H)-dione.

D41

20. (Amended) The drug delivery system compound according to claim 19, which is a medicament for treating liver cancer.

22. (Amended) A carboxy(C_{1-4})alkyldextran polyalcohol modified with galactose or galactosamine.

D42

23. (Amended) A polymer carrier comprising a carboxy(C_{1-4})alkyldextran polyalcohol modified with galactose or galactosamine.

26. (Amended) A method for measurement of content of a residue of a drug compound introduced to a drug delivery system compound in which a polymer carrier and a residue of drug compound are bound to each other by a spacer comprising 2 to 8 amino acids linked by peptide bond(s), which comprises treating the drug delivery system compound with a peptidase, and measuring the resulting hydrolysate.

27. (Twice Amended) The method according to claim 26, wherein the hydrolysate is the drug compound.

28. (Twice Amended) The method according to claim 26, wherein the hydrolysate is a compound comprising the residue of drug compound bound with a part of the spacer.

30. (Twice Amended) The method according to claim 26, wherein the polymer carrier is a polysaccharide derivative having carboxyl groups.

32. (Twice Amended) The method according to claim 26, wherein the drug compound introduced to the drug delivery system compound is an antineoplastic agent or an anti-inflammatory agent.

33. (Twice Amended) The method according to claim 26, wherein the spacer is a tetrapeptide represented by -Gly-Gly-Phe-Gly- (SEQ ID NO. 1) from the N-terminal or a tetrapeptide represented by -Gly-Gly-Gly-Phe- (SEQ ID NO. 8) from the N-terminal.

34. (Twice Amended) A method for measuring a drug delivery system compound in which a polymer carrier and a residue of drug compound are bound to each other by a spacer comprising 2 to 8 amino acids linked by peptide bond(s), which comprises treating the drug delivery system compound with a peptidase, and measuring the resulting hydrolysate, and wherein the spacer is a group represented by -Gly-Gly-Phe-Gly-HN-Y'-CH_2-O-CO- (SEQ ID NO. 1) from the N-terminal or a group represented by -Gly-Gly-Gly-Phe-NH-Y'-CH_2-O-CO- (SEQ ID NO. 8) from the N-terminal wherein Y' represents p-phenylene group.

35. (Twice Amended) A method for measuring a drug delivery system compound in which a polymer carrier and a residue of drug compound are bound to each other by a spacer comprising 2 to 8 amino acids linked by peptide bond(s), which comprises treating the drug delivery system compound with a peptidase comprising α-chymotrypsin or papain, and measuring the resulting hydrolysate.

D 46

36. (Twice Amended) The method according to claim 26, wherein the drug compound is (1S,9S)-1-amino-9-ethyl-5-fluoro-2,3-dihydro-9-hydroxy-4-methyl-1H,12H-benzo[de]pyrano[3',4':6,7]indolizino[1,2-b]quinoline-10,13(9H,15H)-dione.

37. (Twice Amended) The method according to claim 34, which is used for measurement of a drug delivery system compound in which a carboxy(C_{1-4})alkyldextran polyalcohol and (1S,9S)-1-amino-9-ethyl-5-fluoro-2,3-dihydro-9-hydroxy-4-methyl-1H,12H-benzo[de]pyrano3'4':6,7]indolizino[1,2-b]quinoline-10,13(9H,15H)-dione are bound to each other by a spacer comprising a tetrapeptide represented by -Gly-Gly-Phe-Gly- (SEQ ID NO. 1) or a tetrapeptide represented by -Gly-Gly-Gly-Phe- (SEQ ID NO. 8) from the N-terminal.

38. (Amended) A method for measuring a drug delivery system compound in which a polymer carrier comprising carboxy(C_{1-4})alkyldextran polyalcohol and a drug compound comprising (1S,9S)-1-amino-9-ethyl-5-fluoro-2,3-dihydro-9-hydroxy-4-methyl-1H,12H-benzo[de]pyrano3'4':6,7]indolizino[1,2-b]quinoline-10,13(9H,15H)-dione are bound to each other by a spacer comprising a tetrapeptide represented by -Gly-Gly-Phe-Gly- (SEQ ID NO. 1) or a tetrapeptide represented by -Gly-Gly-Gly-Phe- (SEQ ID NO. 8) from the N-terminal, which comprises treating the drug delivery system compound with a peptidase comprising α-chymotrypsin or papain, and measuring (1S,9S)-9-ethyl-5-fluoro-1-glycylamino-2,3-dihydro-9-hydroxy-4-methyl-1H,12H-benzo[de]pyrano[3',4':6,7]indolizino[1,2-b]quinoline-10,13(9H,15H)-dione as the resulting hydrolysate.

D47

REMARKS

Upon entry of the instant amendment, claims 12, 13, 21, 24 and 25 will be canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein, and claims 1-11, 14-20, 22, 23, 26-28, 30 and 32-38 will be amended, whereby claims 1-11, 14-20, 22, 23 and 26-38 will remain pending. Claims 1, 6, 9, 22, 23, 26, 34, 35 and 38 are independent claims.

Applicants note that any amendments to the claims which have been made in this amendment, and which have not been specifically noted to overcome a rejection based upon the prior art, should be considered to have been made for a purpose unrelated to patentability, and no estoppel should be deemed attached thereto. In this regard, amendments have been made to the claims for cosmetic purposes, and these amendments should not raise any estoppel.

Reconsideration and allowance of the application are respectfully requested.